

Alpha's Regret-My Luna Has A Son

chapter 92

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Walking into the hospital, Macey and Zoe paced out the front of Emily's and Ben's room. Tears streaked both their faces, and Macey's eyes were puffy, so I knew whatever was going was terrible because Macey never cries, she never gets emotional, she kept her walls high and took on the world with a no fucks given attitude. My stomach plummets as I approach them. My entire body was shaking, the moment I got to them, the door opened, and the Doctor stepped out. A grim expression on his face. Macey instantly turned to face him, but Doc's shoulders dropped. "Well?" she asks. Doc looked tired, and I couldn't imagine having his job, having to deliver bad news to families or parents. Bad news was exactly what we got when he spoke.

"As you know, Ben deteriorated overnight. His blood test when he first came in showed some hope, he wasn't a full-blown forsaken, but now he is, his body is shutting down, his organs are failing, he doesn't have much time left," I swallow his words down and bite the inside of my lip to stop the quiver. "Emily?" I ask, clearing my throat.

"The only thing keeping her alive is the machines. Without them, she will die," Doc answers. We already knew that, but I had some hope. Doc just killed that hope.

"Is he still conscious?" Zoe asks.

"He keeps coming in and out. One minute he almost seems lucid the next, he is hurting himself or trying to attack the nurses," Doc says. "So what now?" I ask

"There is nothing else we can do, we did dialysis, but the infection is not just in his blood. It's in his muscles, bones, everything, I'm sorry, Luna, but now we just wait," "Wait for him to die?" I ask Doc smiles sadly and nods. I press my lips in a line and gulp before clearing my throat. Zoe sits heavily in the chair by the door.

door. "He's just a child," she says, putting her head in her hands. Macey grips her shoulder, hugging her against her hip. "Thank you for everything, Doc," I tell him.

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"You're more than welcome to stay with him. I will send some chairs in for you all," he says, wandering down the hall. I stare at the ceiling, willing the tears to go before pushing the door open and stepping inside. Macey follows me in, sitting beside him and grabbing his hand.

Zoe enters but remains close to the wall as she stares, not knowing what to do. Doc comes back in with two extra chairs, and I sit between Emily's and Ben's bed, holding his hand and rubbing circles in the back of his hand. Hours pass, and Ben comes too, thrashing and snarling periodically.

"He didn't deserve this," Macey says, gently brushing his fringe from his deformed face. She sniffles when Valen walks in. He nods to us before hugging Zoe, who was a mess at the back of

the room. "Marcus is on his way," he tells her, and she nods. He kisses her forehead as she shakes, staring off vacantly, her eyes glued to Ben and Emily. Macey falls asleep for a while, and Zoe leaves to get coffee and update the hotel on their wellbeing. Zoe had been gone for about five minutes when the alarms started sounding as the monitors went off. Macey sits upright in panic just as Ben starts thrashing, his heart rate increasing and blood streaming out of his ears and eyes.

Nurses rush in, shutting everything off as Ben tries to breathe around the tube in his mouth; I squeeze his hand while Macey whispers to him. Ben's eyes open with a crazed gleam, yet I see him. See the boy he once was, the scared look beyond them. He tries to speak around the tube, and one of the nurses runs out of the room, unable to watch when he gasps.

"Mum," he rasps, the sound barely audible, and Macey breaks, sobbing while clutching his hand. Just as Zoe walks in with the coffees, she shoves the tray at Valen before rushing over, gripping his legs, and rubbing them.

"Can't you give him something to help calm him?" Macey asked the Doctor, who lingered helplessly. "We already have given him everything. Nothing works," he murmurs, holding back his own tears.

Macey and the Doctor talked, but I couldn't stop staring at his wide eyes, unblinkingly looking back at me before I even thought of what I was doing or processed it; I undid his handcuff with the key that sat beside the bed. I let the guard rail down on the bed. His hand flailed, grasping air before I climbed on the bed beside him. Ben snaps and snarls at me. Thrashing when I slid my arm under his body and lay beside him, pulling his legs over my lap, so he was sitting

awkwardly on me. His head resting on my shoulder and my hand on his forehead so he couldn't turn his head to bite, not that he could do much with the tube in his mouth as he squirmed. Macey reaches over, holding out her hand for the key to do the other one. Doc protests, but I hand it to her, ignoring him. "Luna, he is dangerous," Doc says, and Valen goes to reach for me, but I pull away. "No!" I tell Valen when he tries to pull me off the bed. "Everly," he whispers, watching Ben grip and claw at my arm with his free hand. "No, he is scared. Emily can't hold him, so I will do it for her, as she would for me," I tell him, my voice breaking knowing she would. No matter the risk to herself, she was part of our village, and when one falls, the rest pick up the slack.

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Macey undoes his other hand and moves, gripping my shoulder, and I readjust him on my lap, turning my face into his hair and humming to him. Macey moves beside Valen, and he steps out of her way, she drags the little side table out of the way and drops the side rails on Emily's bed before walking around the other side. Doctors and nurses tried to stop her, but they were already dying. What did it matter if cords got tangled? Macey pushed Emily's bed flush against Ben's, who gasped for air. I stroke his hair before gripping his wrist and moving it to Emily's arm. He whimpers, clutching her forearm tightly, and calms. He stops thrashing completely, he may be forsaken but he knows his mother's

touch.

"She is right there, Ben, right here with you," I whisper to him. "She loves you so much." I tell him as his breathing slowly evened out. His blood-soaked the shirt I was wearing, which I realized was inside out. I stare up at the ceiling and just hold him. Macey rubbing his back, and Zoe crying while rubbing his legs in my lap. The room falls silent, the only sound is his heart rate monitor, and I turn my head to look at Emily. All the things she wanted for her son come to mind, how she worked her ass off to provide for him, never turning down a shift, how she would even bring Ben to play with Valarian and Casey if she couldn't get a sitter. She wanted so much for him, and this wasn't it. I looked at Valen, who stood with a hand under his chin, worry etched into his face at how close I was to Ben.

This boy was not a monster. He was a sweet boy. Emily's boy. I kiss Ben's forehead. I couldn't fix this. Our emergency fund couldn't bail them out, no cure would save him. Nothing we could do, but I could give her one thing.

I let my claws slide from my fingertips before digging them into my palm. I let my blood pool in my hand. Macey lifts her head, and her lips quiver when I move him, making sure his hand remains on Emily. I pulled his other hand from under him and sliced his palm. The moment I did, Valen reached over the bed and gripped my wrist to stop me. I stare at him. He looks at Ben and drops his head. He knew what I wanted.

"You're not doing it. His blood could make you sick," Valen whispers.

"It's all she wanted, and he can't pledge, a blood link is the only way," I tell him, and he looks down at Emily, who he was leaning over. He sighs.

"I'll do it," he murmurs, gripping my wrist. He looks up at me, his eyes watching me.

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"I'll do it," he says, letting me go. Valen slashes his palm with his claws, and I do the same to Ben's free hand that lays limp on my belly. He doesn't move or even flinch.

Valen reaches over and grips his hand, and I stroke Ben's hair. "I Alpha Valen, of the Nightshade pack-" his words cut off, and I notice Marcus, whose eyes were glazed over as he stood behind Zoe, his arms wrapped around her waist.

"You sure?" Valen asks, and I see Marcus nod before Valen turns his gaze back to Ben. "I Alpha Valen of the Nightshade pack, welcome Ben Steele and declare him the new Beta of Nightshade Pack," he murmurs. Marcus gasps as his title is stripped, and Zoe reaches up, cupping his cheek with her hand. It would only be temporary, but it would have stung Marcus.

Suddenly the mind-link opens up, and our pack welcomes Beta Ben, bringing tears to my eyes. I didn't know whether or not he could hear them, but he would not die a rogue. Valen then does the same to Emily, and I feel her tether form. Fear coursed through me, knowing soon both their tethers would sever and it would be crippling, but we could grant this wish. Doc stabs a needle in Valen's arm as he stands back up. "Precaution," Doc murmurs to Valen, who nods. I swallow, knowing precisely what he risked for them, yet he did, so I didn't have to.

Macey grabs Emily's hand and kisses it as we wait. About an hour later, Emily's machine starts beeping, and Doc checks it looking at me, and so does Macey as the nurses bring paddles near the bed like they were waiting for the time they would need them.

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Ben's breathing had slowed, and his heart rate became slower when I heard him gasp and stop, I clutch him tighter, whispering how much his mother loves him, how much we all loved him when his heart rate monitor flatlined. The newly formed pack tether snapped and pain ricocheted through me, ripping at my heart and my stomach twisted. Valen clutched the bed gasping and sweating until it passed and I knew he was gone. Zoe sobs and Macey bawls, my entire body shaking as I held him. "Luna, we can," Doc starts to say, and I stare up at the ceiling. "Leave her, let her go. Let her be with her son," I croak out. The nurses move around fussing with lines and tubes when Macey grips one of their arms.

"If I was in her place, I wouldn't want to wake to my son gone," Macey stammers, choked with emotion. Emily wouldn't want to be here. Ben was her whole world, just like I couldn't live without my son.

"Turn her machines off," I ordered Doc. I don't care if they could restabilize her; I know Emily and life wouldn't be worth living stuck on life support without her son. She held on long enough.

Nurses nodded, turning machines off while Doc pressed a stethoscope to Ben's chest, calling his time of death. Though we knew he was gone, his heart no longer beating, his blood pressure had bottomed out as blood leaked from his eyes, nose, and mouth. The nurses clean him up, and Macey pulls the beds apart. I sit up with him, letting the nurses remove his tubes and lines before Macey moves Emily over. Her body convulsed, and reflex had her gasping as I lay Ben beside her.

Standing beside her, I brush her hair back while Macey kisses her hand before cupping it to her cheek. She then lays her hand on Ben's shoulder. "It's okay, Emily. Ben is home," I tell her while patting her hand. "He is safe beside you," I tell her as my tears drip on his little shoulder.

I stroke her hair, leaning over to kiss her head. "You got your wish. Ben was Beta to Nightshade. He is pack just like you. You can let go now. You don't need to hold on. We brought Ben home. He is safe with you now," I choke, my voice trembling as her mouth opened, gasping but not actually breathing.

Alpha's Regret—My Luna Has A Son

Chapter 93

Chapter 93 Valen POV

My heart broke for Everly, Zoe, and Macey as they told Emily it was okay to go, that she didn't have to hold on any longer. Moments passed, and hushed whispers were all that could be heard as they tried to soothe their friend when she gasped one last time. I held my breath, waiting to see if it was a false alarm yet, and praying it wasn't. She shouldn't suffer anymore, no one deserves to suffer this fate. When Everly dropped her head on Ben's shoulder and sobbed, I felt Emily's pack link sever.

My heart panged with pain, if only briefly, yet the pain, anguish, and despair that flooded Everly through the bond as she mourned her family broke my heart further. Marcus hugged Zoe close as she fell apart. Macey just stared vacantly ahead, sitting back down in her chair.

The doctor checked her and nodded, calling time of death before saying he would leave to let them say their goodbyes. The girls tuck them in like they were saying goodnight and not goodbye, and the doctor comes back and tells Everly what would happen next. "Come on," Marcus whispers to Zoe, pulling her from the room, and Macey quickly follows, closing the door behind them.

Everly kisses them both once again and stands upright. I watch as she swallows down the emotion that threatened to consume her, she tugs her shirt off, pulls it back on the right way, and cleans her face with some water from the sink basin. She washes away the tears that stained her face. I move toward her, wanting to comfort her, but she pulls away, looking at me.

I drop my hand. "I'm sorry, but please don't touch me right now," she whispers, her eyes softening as she stares at me. Yet I knew if I did, she would break. I got it, but the urge was still there, the bond calling me to my mate. I nod, letting her get herself together. She loved, lost, and mourned, and I was in awe of how she slipped back into business mode, shut down everything and forced her anguish

back. Her determination returned, and she felt she had work to do. She broke if only briefly before picking herself up and dusting herself off, ready for battle again. I hated that she instinctively switched and shut down, a coping mechanism from years of taking on everything and everyone else's problems and emotions while ignoring her own. She had me, but Everly forced to be independent, endure, and never rely on anyone instinctively recoiled inside herself. She would deal, conquer then when alone break. But for now, she had to put on a front to do what needed to be done. It made me realize what sort of leader she is and what sort of Luna she would be.

Unbreakable to the rest of the world, the rogues' communities anchor despite the pressure of drowning herself. She took on the persona and got things done. The amount of impact she had with rogues and how much they looked up to her did not hit me until I stepped out the doors after her. Rogues lined the walls, heads bowed as she stepped out. I hear Everly gasp before she walks down the corridor, each one bowing as she passes.

Her village, that word suddenly took on a new meaning. What it represented. Everly, Zoe, and Macey were never rogue. The three of them brought hope to the rogues, and they rallied for

their leaders, and Emily and Ben. A family built on love and respect. Everly grips my hand as I step beside her. And I give it a squeeze. "You don't have to be strong, you know," I whisper. "Yeah, I do, for them," she whispers back.

Macey and Zoe waited by the exit doors, and Everly let me go. She walked toward them, they wrapped their arms around her waist. The rogues looked up to the girls, and Macey, despite being older and Zoe younger, both looked to Everly. She was the chief of the village they built. She was their armor, and she wore it proudly. Ava stood outside the doors, looking lost as her sister stepped out with Zoe and Macey.

The three girls had a bond, a sisterhood built on their blood, sweat and tears, and with undying, unconditional love. Ava, for so long, had a strained relationship with her sister and knew she wasn't Everly's only sister now. I could see the pain in her eyes as she watched them. But like true Queens, they stopped, and Macey offered out her hand to Ava, who took it, letting out a shaky breath. Macey tosses an arm over her shoulder, tugging her into their circle. Accepting her as one of them.

I look at the overcast sky. Storm clouds roll across the horizon. The day was as gloomy as it was depressing. Yet as the rogues filed out after their chiefs, their honorary Lunas. I chuckled and smiled as Marcus stopped beside me. He leans his shoulder against mine, nodding his head toward them. My mother's words about Everly are so true and I now understood what she meant.

"Watch her," and I do as she leads her people down to the parking lot. They stood in a circle, hands clasped, the girls in the middle. Every rogue had come to say goodbye, no matter their state, some in their work uniforms, having stopped whatever they were doing and running when their family needed them, run to see them off. She called it her village, but it wasn't a village. They were a pack,

and as Everly turned her face up to the sky and howled. Everyone followed in unison, saying their final goodbyes.

They were never rogue. This is what a pack is. This is family and at the center stood their Alpha. Not by birth, but because she earned the right, she earned their respect and fought for them when no one else would, a true leader. Everly's determination was admirable, and the woman truly is remarkable. A chorus of howls filled the silence, followed by my own howls as they said goodbye. Mum would be so proud. I was proud. Everyone thinks she is just a lucky rogue, who an Alpha claimed. Yet looking at her, I was the lucky one. I never claimed her, I thought I did, yet a woman as strong as she couldn't be claimed. She was the one that did the claiming. She didn't need me; she had herself and the village she built. She knows who she is, and she isn't afraid to be it. She will fight, and I know she will win, and I will love watching every second of it as she reclaims the city, changes it. As she makes mum proud.

Alpha's Regret—My Luna Has A Son Chapter 94

Chapter 94 Everly POV Four Days Later We held the funerals yesterday , and today I couldn't cope with work , so I started the mural at the homeless shelter . I designed the sign and sent it off last night to my manufacturer . So when I walked into work to find everything handled and for once the sky showed no sign of rain , I got a head start on the mural on either side of the door leading into the old school . I had two days until the council meeting , and two days after that ,

I had the challenge for my father's pack . I was a little nervous about exactly what it was I was getting myself into with his pack , especially if it was bankrupt like Ava believed . Yet if I could restore a hotel to its former glory , I had no doubts I could dig them out of the hole my father dug . I forgot how much I enjoy drawing and painting , though the old rendered brickwork was making it a bitch to stencil out the design with my paintbrush . I had done the background white like a canvas , though standing on a ladder while it was windy wasn't ideal . Hearing a car pull up along the road behind me , I glance over my shoulder to see Valen's car .

He hops out , walking over to me . " Everly , the wind is hectic today . Get down before you fall off , " Valen scolds , coming over and holding the ladder . I shake my head but climb down , unclipping the harness as I reach each step on the ladder . " I have a harness , " I tell him , but he shakes his head . " Harness won't do much if that unhooks from up top . It's only hooked to the guttering . That's not the sturdiest thing , especially those old crumbling ones . It would be best if you had told me you were doing such a gigantic mural ; I would have had a cherry picker brought over . Don't use the ladder . I will get one sent over tomorrow , " Valen scolds , and I shake my head . He had a point , though , and the site supervisor also gave me a lecture about the same thing , making me wonder if he called Valen . " The site supervisor called you , didn't he ?

" I tell Valen , and he smirks . " Of course , " he says , and I roll my eyes . " I thought you had your meeting today with your father over pack business ? " His eyes darken slightly , and he sighs . " I sent my accountant instead , " he says while bending down to help pick up my supplies . I pack them into a box and put them in the cleaning closet just inside the school doors . " You can't just avoid your father , " I tell him , following him out to his car . " Unless it has something to do about Valarian , I don't want to hear it , " Valen growls , opening the driver's door . " Valen , he is your father , and he is a wonderful dad , " I tell him . " He lied to me , " Valen states . I sigh , climbing into the car . " Your mother wouldn't want you to toss your father away .

He fucked up , but he is trying to make up for it . The petition got pushed through by him . He drops everything he is doing whenever we need his help with Valarian . " I tell him , and he starts the car , nodding his head . We head to school to pick Valarian up . When the bell rang , he came running out excitedly , jumping up and down to show the painting he had done

. " Wow ! " Valen says , looking at it . Casey came over to show us her painting , which was covered with glitter and swirling scribble . Valarian , however , was all straight lines of paint that looked like he used a ruler to make sure he didn't go out of the lines . I smiled down at him , and he grabbed his father's hand as we crossed the road to the car . Once in the car , we headed home while listening to the radio talking about the upcoming council meeting . My attention turned to the news reporter as her nasally voice spoke about an upcoming war . " It appears war is brewing between Alpha Nixon and Alpha Valen . Alpha Nixon was spotted today leaving the council chambers in a rage after learning Alpha Valen's mate , Everly Summer's , the infamous disgraced daughter of Alpha John from Shadow Pack , petitioned to have the laws involving the unfair treatment of rogues changed . Alpha Nixon

refused to speak to the media today after he was spotted in an argument with Alpha John just in the front of the council chambers before reversing into Alpha John's car . It appears tensions among the packs are high , and in the next few weeks , we will either see change within the city or war between packs , " Valen turns the radio off , glancing at me , and I sigh . Great , the media was going to blow this right up , and if there wasn't a war , they would ensure one starts with the hysteria they would cause . " Would the City really go to war over mum's petition ? " Valarian asks , and Valen glances in the mirror at him .

" Hopefully not , but unfortunately , people don't like change . Greed and entitlement start a lot of issues , " Valen tells him . " But Rogues have nothing . They aren't even allowed to own housing ? " Valarian says . " And that is why your mother is petitioning to have the laws changed . " " " So , Alpha Nixon wants to take more from the rogues when they already have

nothing . What's left to take ? " Valarian asks . " Their lives , that is all that's left , and people like Nixon think they deserve to play God and dictate how people should live and what laws they should live by , " I answered with a sigh . " But isn't your dad on his side ? " " He is on the wrong side , " I agreed . " Does that upset you ? " Valarian asks , and I look at him over my shoulder . " No , because that shows his character , not mine , " I tell him . " But you're his daughter ? " " Yes , that's true , but I am not my father or my mother . I am my own person , just like you are your own person , " I tell him . " So I shouldn't be like you or dad when I a

m older ? " he asks . " No. Strive to be better , surpass us . One day be a better Alpha than me , " Valen says . " What if I don't want to be an Alpha ? " Valarian asks .

" Then I will find someone else to take over the pack , " " What if I want to be Luna like Mum ? " Valarian asks . " Then you will be Luna Valarian , " Valen chuckles . " Doesn't sound very cool , no offense , mum . I think I will stick with Alpha Valarian , " Valarian says , and Valen snickers . " What ? The Luna is more important than the Alpha , " Valarian says .. " Is that so ? " Valen asks . " Yep . The Alpha keeps the packs in line , the Luna keeps the Alpha in line , " Valarian shrugs , and I laugh , glancing at Valen . 2 " You think this is funny ? Our son just demanned me , " Valen chuckles . " Alpha's , so sensitive , " I tell him , patting Valen's shoulder while shaking my head . We headed home , and on the way , I texted Kalen to come over for dinner .

It was time these two had a chat . Kalen was trying , but Valen had to put in some effort on his end . Dinner was awkward , and Valen and Kalen only spoke about Valarian until Kalen helped Valen do the dishes while I sat on the couch with Valarian , watching some kid's show while I tried not to listen . Around 8 PM , Valen got a call and walked outside to take it before returning , saying he had to head out . Kalen also said he should head home since it was a school night .

Valen was gone for hours , and eventually , Valarian went to bed after reading to him and tucking him . I heard my phone ringing in the living room only after I closed the door . Walking out , I noticed the call was from Zoe . I answered it , thinking it was unusual for her to call so late . When I answered and heard her frantic voice , I knew instantly something was wrong and the sirens in the background made my heart thump in my chest . All the air was sucked from my lungs as her following words left her . " Everly , " she sobbed into the phone . " Zoe ? What is it ? "

" Can you hear me ? " she asked . " Zoe ? " " It's gone , Everly . It's gone ! " she sobbed into the phone . " What's gone ? " " The hotel . It spread so fast . You need to get here , " she cried before the phone cut out . I tried calling her number again , but all I got was her voicemail . I instantly called Valen's number .. Valen POV my I stood awkwardly in the elevator with : father . " So , where are you heading off to ? " he asked . Thanks to Everly , it was bad enough that I had to sit through an awkward dinner . Though I knew , she was only thinking about mine and my father's relationship . Yet I couldn't complain to Everly about my problem , so I told him . " Going to see Dion , " H " The jeweler ? " he asked , and I nodded . " Wait . Are you proposing to Everly ? "

" Why else would I be going to see him ? " " Well , it's about bloody time , " my father says , and I can't help the tug of my lips . I knew if he had his way , I would have married her the day I met her . " So the ring is ready . What sort of ring did you get her ? " " One of mum's rings . Valarian picked out the stone . " I tell him , and my father nods and glances away . He swallows . " So you are picking it up ? " " No , there is an issue , so I am stopping over there . Apparently , the engraver isn't working , " I tell him . The doors finally open , and I step out , heading for my car , wanting to get this over with .

I pulled up out of the plaza walking to Dion's jewelers . He had called , saying there was something wrong with the engraver . What I wasn't expecting was for

my father to follow me . He pulled up behind me . " What are you doing ? " " Coming to see if I can help ? " he says , though I know he was trying to spend more time with me . He was always extra clinging when I was upset with him , and this feud of ours had lasted weeks . Though I would be lying if I said I didn't enjoy his company a little . We walked to the jewelers and knocked on the door . Dion comes over and unlocks it , locking it behind us and we follow him out to the back of his store . " What's wrong with it ? " I ask him . Dion shrugs , picking up a rag and wiping his forehead , which was covered in sweat from the lights in here . " No , idea . I've been pulling the damn thing apart

, but I am a jeweler , not a bloody technician , and the ring holder won't spin , " he grumbles . My father shrugs his jacket off before pulling a stool over and sitting in front of the laser machine . They spent hours trying to fix it before deciding it needed some part . Dion then spent a few hours on eBay and various sites trying to find the part for the specific engraver he had , only to tell me shipment would take another two weeks on top of the time it would take for the stone to arrive . " What is with shipment these days ? " I growl . I was already impatient to get the ring back , let alone now adding more time .

Dion shrugs apologetically . I sigh , knowing it isn't his fault when my father speaks . " I can go pick it up ? " he offers . " It's a four - day drive , " I tell him , and he shrugs . " Better than waiting . When does the stone arrive ? " he asks Dion . " Hopefully , next week , they were able to ship it off on the next flight , so it's arriving early , " Dion says . Well , at least something good came of this . the part " It's settled then .

I will go pick up t and bring it back here , and you should have your ring earlier than expected , " my father tells me . He looks down at Dion's computer , and Dion fills out something about picking it up . My father then jots down the address on a piece of paper . Leaving , my father followed me out , and we walked back to the car . " You didn't have to pick it up . I know you are only sucking u p , " I tell him .

" Is it working ? " he chuckled . " Kind of , " I laugh . We stand there awkwardly when my father hugs me . After I stood there for a second , I wrapped my arms around him . " I miss you , son , " " h e says , his voice cracking . I rub his back before he lets go and nods , racing to his car . He leaves before I get in my car . The moment I did , the mind - link opened up , and Marcus ' voice was in my head . " Hey , what's up ? " " " You need to get to Mountainview Hotel , " " Why ? " " It's not good , Valen . The whole place is gone . It's just a shell , " 11 " Excuse me ? "

" Someone cut the water off and the power . We were trying to figure out what was going on when we heard an explosion in the kitchen , an hour after closing , and the entire place went up , " " Fuck ! I'm on my way , " I tell him . Hearing my phone ringing , I grab it from my jacket pocket . It was Everly . I was about to answer when I saw my father's car come abruptly to a stop at the traffic lights before he turned the car around and drove back towards me on the opposite side of the road . He stops on the opposite side of the road just as I answer Everly's phone call .

She was sobbing hysterically , and I told her I was on my way there when she said she was trying to get a hold of my father . He is with me . We are on our way , " I

tell her before hanging up . Dad winds his window down , and I do the same . ”
Want me to take Valarian ? It’s all over the radio , ” he calls . ” Head to the Hotel .
Everly is on her way there with him , ” I call back , and he nods before taking off . I
rip a U – turn , following after him ..